



PATENTS

Attorney Docket No. 293/034 Div. 2

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

PATENT APPLICATION

Applicants : Todd A. Berg et al.
Application No.: 10/683,537 Confirmation No.: 2610
Filed : October, 2003
For : MEDICAL GRAFT CONNECTOR OR PLUG
STRUCTURES, AND METHODS OF MAKING AND
INSTALLING SAME
Group Art Unit : 3738
Examiner : Not yet assigned

New York, New York 10020
April 2, 2004

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Sir:

Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.56 and 1.97,
applicants hereby make the following documents of record
in the above-identified patent application:

Group A:

	<u>U.S. Patent Documents</u>	
Sakura, Jr.	4,214,587	(07/29/80)
Dotter	4,503,569	(03/12/85)
Gupte et al.	4,592,754	(06/03/86)
Kornberg	4,617,932	(10/21/86)
Jervis	4,665,906	(05/19/87)
Lazarus	4,787,899	(11/29/88)
Lazarus	5,104,399	(04/14/92)
Granger et al.	5,122,156	(06/16/92)
Citron	5,135,467	(08/04/92)
Trout, III	5,207,695	(05/04/93)
Clouse	5,211,658	(05/18/93)
Maginot	5,211,683	(05/18/93)
Kaster et al.	5,234,447	(08/10/93)

U.S. Patent Documents Group A continued:

Lazarus et al.	5,275,622	(01/04/94)
Maginot	5,304,220	(04/19/94)
Palmaz et al.	5,316,023	(05/31/94)
Das	5,334,217	(08/02/94)
Kelman et al.	5,354,336	(10/11/94)
Chuter	5,387,235	(02/07/95)
Lazarus	5,397,345	(03/14/95)
Marin et al.	5,397,355	(03/14/95)
Sideris	5,433,727	(07/18/95)
Venbrux	5,443,497	(08/22/95)
Sterman et al.	5,452,733	(09/26/95)
Maginot	5,456,712	(10/10/95)
Piplani et al.	5,489,295	(02/06/96)
Marin et al.	5,507,769	(04/16/96)
Barone et al.	5,522,880	(06/04/96)
Stevens	5,545,214	(08/13/96)
Lazarus et al.	5,562,728	(10/08/96)
Taheri	5,617,878	(04/08/97)
Dereume	5,653,747	(08/05/97)
Kim	5,676,670	(10/14/97)
Gifford, III et al.	5,695,504	(12/09/97)
Frantzen et al.	5,843,164	(12/01/98)
Ahn	5,843,170	(12/01/98)
Frantzen	5,843,175	(12/01/98)
Kleshinski	5,921,995	(07/13/99)
Goldsteen et al.	5,976,178	(11/02/99)
Berg et al.	6,013,190	(01/11/00)
LaFontaine et al.	6,026,814	(02/22/00)
LaFontaine et al.	6,035,856	(03/14/00)
Bachinski et al.	6,036,702	(03/14/00)

Foreign Patent Documents:

Australia	670,239	(01/06/94)
Great Britain	489,316	(07/25/38)
Great Britain	2,269,104 A	(02/02/94)
EPO	0 539 237 A1	(04/28/93)
EPO	0 637 454 A1	(02/08/95)
EPO	0 680 734 A2	(11/08/95)
EPO	0 684 022 A2	(11/29/95)
EPO	0 701 800 A1	(03/20/96)
EPO	0 712 614 A1	(05/22/96)
EPO	0 732 088 A2	(09/18/96)
EPO	0 732 089 A2	(09/18/96)
Germany	OS 195 42 733	(07/24/97)
PCT	WO 89/08433 A1	(09/21/89)
PCT	WO 93/00868 A1	(01/21/93)
PCT	WO 93/20757 A2	(10/28/93)
PCT	WO 94/01056 A1	(01/20/94)
PCT	WO 95/21592 A1	(08/17/95)
PCT	WO 95/32757 A1	(12/07/95)
PCT	WO 96/01591 A1	(01/25/96)

Foreign Patent Documents Group A continued:

PCT	WO 96/01599 A1	(01/25/96)
PCT	WO 96/14808 A1	(05/23/96)
PCT	WO 96/18361 A1	(06/20/96)
PCT	WO 96/22745 A1	(08/01/96)
PCT	WO 96/25897 A2	(08/29/96)
PCT	WO 97/13463 A1	(04/17/97)
PCT	WO 97/13471 A1	(04/17/97)
PCT	WO 97/27898 A1	(08/07/97)
PCT	WO 98/02099 A1	(01/22/98)
PCT	WO 98/03118 A1	(01/29/98)
PCT	WO 98/19629 A2	(05/14/98)
PCT	WO 98/19629 A3	(09/11/98)
PCT	WO 98/38939 A1	(09/11/98)
PCT	WO 98/38941 A1	(09/11/98)
PCT	WO 98/38942 A1	(09/11/98)

Group B:

U.S. Patent Documents

Regan et al.	4,083,162	(04/11/78)
Kaster	4,368,736	(01/18/83)
Krumme	4,485,816	(12/04/84)
Shiber	5,041,082	(08/20/91)
Kaster et al.	5,366,462	(11/22/94)
Hildwein et al.	5,391,156	(02/21/95)
Tovey et al.	5,478,354	(12/26/95)
Gryskiewicz	5,618,311	(04/08/97)
Popov et al.	5,702,412	(12/30/97)
Hinchliffe et al.	5,833,698	(11/10/98)
Ratcliff et al.	5,910,155	(06/08/99)
Bolduc et al.	5,976,159	(11/02/99)
Berg et al.	6,074,416	(06/13/00)
Swanson et al.	6,113,612	(09/05/00)
Sullivan et al.	6,120,432	(09/19/00)
Bolduc et al.	6,193,734	(02/27/01)

Foreign Patent Documents:

PCT	WO 98/55027 A2	(12/10/98)
PCT	WO 99/62408 A1	(12/09/99)

The aforementioned documents are listed on the accompanying Form PTO-1449 (submitted in duplicate). The documents listed in Group A were previously submitted by applicants to the Patent Office in Berg et al. Patent Application No. 09/569,607, filed May 10, 2000 (now U.S. Patent No. 6,660,015), from which the present application claims priority under 35 U.S.C. § 120. Accordingly, pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.98(d), no copies of the

documents that were previously submitted in the parent case accompany this Information Disclosure Statement. Copies of the documents listed in Group B are enclosed herewith.

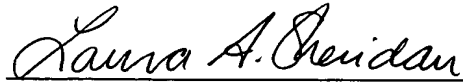
Applicants reserve the right to establish the patentability of the claimed invention over any of the information provided herewith, and/or to prove that this information may not be prior art, and/or to prove that this information may not be enabling for the teachings purportedly offered.

It is respectfully requested that these documents be (1) fully considered by the United States Patent and Trademark Office during examination of this application; and (2) printed on any patent which may issue on this application. Applicants request that a copy of Form PTO-1449, as considered and initialed by the Examiner, be returned with the next communication.

In accordance with 37 C.F.R. § 1.97, submission of this Statement requires no fee. However, if for any reason a fee is due, the Director of the United States Patent and Trademark Office is hereby authorized to charge payment of any fees required in connection with this Information Disclosure Statement to Deposit Account No. 06-1075. A duplicate copy of this Statement is transmitted herewith.

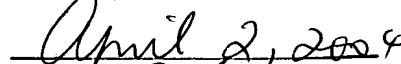
Consideration of the foregoing in relation to
this patent application is respectfully requested.

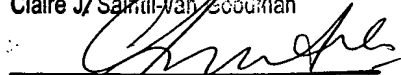
Respectfully submitted,



Laura A. Sheridan
Registration No. 48,446
Agent for Applicants
FISH & NEAVE
Customer No. 1473
1251 Avenue of the Americas
New York, New York 10020-1105
Tel.: (212) 596-9000
Fax : (212) 596-9090

I hereby certify that this
Correspondence is being
deposited with the U.S.
Postal Service as First
Class Mail in an envelope
Addressed to:
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on


Claire J. Samul-van-Scoutman


Signature of Person Signing



FORM PTO-1449

**U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**
**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE
STATEMENT BY APPLICANTS**
ATTY. DOCKET NO.
293/034 Div. 2

APPLN. NO.
10/683,537

APPLICANTS
Todd A Berg et al.

CONFIRMATION NO.
2610

FILING DATE
October 9, 2003

GROUP
3738

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

EXAMINER INITIAL	DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	NAME	CLASS	SUBCLASS	FILING DATE IF APPROPRIATE
	4,083,162	04/11/78	Regan et al.	52	699	
	4,214,587	07/29/80	Sakura, Jr.	128	334R	
	4,368,736	01/18/83	Kaster	128	334C	
	4,485,816	12/04/84	Krumme	128	334R	
	4,503,569	03/12/85	Dotter	3	1.4	
	4,592,754	06/03/86	Gupte et al.	623	1	
	4,617,932	10/21/86	Kornberg	128	334R	
	4,665,906	05/19/87	Jervis	128	92YN	
	4,787,899	11/29/88	Lazarus	623	1	
	5,041,082	08/20/91	Shiber	604	22	
	5,104,399	04/14/92	Lazarus	623	1	
	5,122,156	06/16/92	Granger et al.	606	219	
	5,135,467	08/04/92	Citron	600	16	
	5,207,695	05/04/93	Trout, III	606	153	
	5,211,658	05/18/93	Clouse	623	1	
	5,211,683	05/18/93	Maginot	128	898	
	5,234,447	08/10/93	Kaster et al.	606	153	
	5,275,622	01/04/94	Lazarus et al.	623	1	
	5,304,220	04/19/94	Maginot	623	1	
	5,316,023	05/31/94	Palmaz et al.	128	898	
	5,334,217	08/02/94	Das	606	213	
	5,354,336	10/11/94	Kelman et al.	623	6	
	5,366,462	11/22/94	Kaster et al.	606	153	
	5,387,235	02/07/95	Chuter	623	1	
	5,391,156	02/21/95	Hildwein et al.	604	174	
	5,397,345	03/14/95	Lazarus	623	1	
	5,397,355	03/14/95	Marin et al.	623	12	
	5,433,727	07/18/95	Sideris	606	213	
	5,443,497	08/22/95	Venbrux	623	1	
	5,452,733	09/26/95	Sterman et al.	128	898	

EXAMINER

DATE CONSIDERED

EXAMINER: Initial if citation considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; Draw line through citation if not conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicants.

FORM PTO-1449

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICEATTY. DOCKET NO.
293/034 Div. 2APPLN. NO.
10/683,537INFORMATION DISCLOSURE
STATEMENT BY APPLICANTSAPPLICANTS
Todd A Berg et al.CONFIRMATION NO.
2610FILING DATE
October 9, 2003GROUP
3738

	5,456,712	10/10/95	Maginot	623	1.13	
	5,478,354	12/26/95	Tovey et al.	606	219	
	5,489,295	02/06/96	Piplani et al.	623	1	
	5,507,769	04/16/96	Marin et al.	606	198	
	5,522,880	06/04/96	Barone et al.	623	1	
	5,545,214	08/13/96	Stevens	623	2	
	5,562,728	10/08/96	Lazarus et al.	623	1	
	5,617,878	04/08/97	Taheri	128	898	
	5,618,311	04/08/97	Gryskiewicz	606	216	
	5,653,747	08/05/97	Dereume	623	1	
	5,676,670	10/14/97	Kim	606	108	
	5,695,504	12/09/97	Gifford, III et al.	606	153	
	5,702,412	12/30/97	Popov et al.	606	159	
	5,833,698	11/10/98	Hinchliffe et al.	606	153	
	5,843,164	12/01/98	Frantzen et al.	623	1	
	5,843,170	12/01/98	Ahn	623	1	
	5,843,175	12/01/98	Frantzen	623	1	
	5,910,155	06/08/99	Ratcliff et al.	606	213	
	5,921,995	07/13/99	Kleshinski	606	153	
	5,976,159	11/02/99	Bolduc et al.	606	142	
	5,976,178	11/02/99	Goldsteen et al.	623	1	
	6,013,190	01/11/00	Berg et al.	216	34	
	6,026,814	02/22/00	LaFontaine et al.	128	898	
	6,035,856	03/14/00	LaFontaine et al.	128	898	
	6,036,702	03/14/00	Bachinski et al.	606	153	
	6,074,416	06/13/00	Berg et al.	623	1	
	6,113,612	09/05/00	Swanson et al.	606	153	
	6,120,432	09/19/00	Sullivan et al.	600	36	
	6,193,734	02/27/01	Bolduc et al.	606	153	

EXAMINER

DATE CONSIDERED

EXAMINER: Initial if citation considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; Draw line through citation if not conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicants.

FORM PTO-1449	U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE	ATTY. DOCKET NO.	APPLN. NO.
		293/034 Div. 2	10/683,537
		APPLICANTS	CONFIRMATION NO.
INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANTS		Todd A Berg et al.	2610
		FILING DATE	GROUP
		October 9, 2003	3738

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

EXAMINER INITIAL	DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	COUNTRY	CLASS	SUBCLASS	TRANSLATION	
						YES	NO
	670,239	01/06/94	Australia	A61F	2/06		
	489,316	07/25/38	Great Britain				
	2,269,104 A	02/02/94	Great Britain	A61F	2/06		
	0 539 237 A1	04/28/93	EPO	A61F	2/06		
	0 637 454 A1	02/08/95	EPO	A61M	25/10		
	0 680 734 A2	11/08/95	EPO	A61F	2/06		
	0 684 022 A2	11/29/95	EPO	A61F	2/06		
	0 701 800 A1	03/20/96	EPO	A61F	2/06		
	0 712 614 A1	05/22/96	EPO	A61F	2/06		
	0 732 088 A2	09/18/96	EPO	A61F	2/06		
	0 732 089 A2	09/18/96	EPO	A61F	2/06		
	OS 195 42 733	07/24/97	Germany	A61B	17/11		
	WO 89/08433 A1	09/21/89	PCT	A61F	2/04		
	WO 93/00868 A1	01/21/93	PCT	A61F	2/06		
	WO 93/20757 A2	10/28/93	PCT	A61B	17/11		
	WO 94/01056 A1	01/20/94	PCT	A61F	2/04		
	WO 95/21592 A1	08/17/95	PCT	A61F	2/06		
	WO 95/32757 A1	12/07/95	PCT	A61M	29/00		
	WO 96/01591 A1	01/25/96	PCT	A61B	17/22		
	WO 96/01599 A1	01/25/96	PCT	A61F	2/06		
	WO 96/14808 A1	05/23/96	PCT	A61F	2/02		
	WO 96/18361 A1	06/20/96	PCT	A61F	2/06		
	WO 96/22745 A1	08/01/96	PCT	A61F	2/06		
	WO 96/25897 A2	08/29/96	PCT	A61F	2/06		
	WO 97/13463 A1	04/17/97	PCT	A61B	17/00		
	WO 97/13471 A1	04/17/97	PCT	A61B	19/00		
	WO 97/27898 A1	08/07/97	PCT	A61M	29/00		
	WO 98/02099 A1	01/22/98	PCT	A61B	17/00		
	WO 98/03118 A1	01/29/98	PCT	A61B	17/11		
	WO 98/19629 A2	05/14/98	PCT	A61F	2/06		
	WO 98/19629 A3	09/11/98	PCT	A61F	2/06		

EXAMINER

DATE CONSIDERED

EXAMINER: Initial if citation considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; Draw line through citation if not conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicants.

FORM PTO-1449 U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANTS	ATTY. DOCKET NO. 293/034 Div. 2	APPLN. NO. 10/683,537
	APPLICANTS Todd A Berg et al.	CONFIRMATION NO. 2610
	FILING DATE October 9, 2003	GROUP 3738

	WO 98/38939 A1	09/11/98	PCT	A61B	19/00		
	WO 98/38941 A1	09/11/98	PCT	A61B	19/00		
	WO 98/38942 A1	09/11/98	PCT	A61B	19/00		
	WO 98/55027 A2	12/10/98	PCT	A61B	17/00		
	WO 99/62408 A1	12/09/99	PCT	A61B	17/08		

OTHER DOCUMENTS Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.

EXAMINER INITIAL	

EXAMINER

DATE CONSIDERED

EXAMINER: Initial if citation considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; Draw line through citation if not conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicants.